



Division of Higher Education

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Jacob Oliva
Secretary

Ken Warden, Ed.D.
Commissioner

August 1, 2024

The Honorable Ronald Caldwell, Chair
The Honorable Mindy McAlindon, Chair
ALC - Lottery Oversight Committee
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Caldwell and Representative McAlindon:

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated 6-85-205 (g) (1) (A), I am submitting for your review the enclosed report on the status of Academic Challenge students for fiscal Year 2024. It should be noted that we can only report the current status of students as to whether they maintained their eligibility at the end of the spring 2024 semester. Students have until October 1, 2024 to provide documentation that they have completed summer coursework to maintain their eligibility. The Arkansas Division of Higher Education will provide the requested information on students who dropped out or lost their scholarship in our December report.

The attached report shows the current status of all students who received an Academic Challenge award in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2024.

Should you require additional information, please let me know and we will be happy to provide.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Warden", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Ken Warden, Ed.D.
Commissioner

**Arkansas Division of Higher Education
Academic Challenge Scholarship Program
Student Statuses - All Cohorts
Fiscal 2024**

Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	4,469	3.84	25.0	3.53	1,743	2,702	24	12	118	264	368	3,489	132	86	\$ 18,474,704	28.5	28.4
Dropped	345	3.42	22.0	3.29	152	174	19	1	6	21	20	273	4	20	\$ 354,962	4.3	4.4
Eligible	14,123	3.86	24.2	3.57	5,212	8,243	668	97	484	806	1,159	10,421	307	849	\$ 38,724,612	7.8	7.8
Pending Renewal	4,535	3.56	22.1	3.36	1,886	2,424	225	27	99	448	396	3,191	99	275	\$ 9,991,133	5.6	5.6
Overall-Summary	23,472	3.79	23.9	3.53	8,993	13,543	936	137	707	1,539	1,943	17,374	542	1,230	\$ 67,545,411	11.3	11.2

Non-Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	862	555.40	21.5	3.44	302	507	53	3	13	134	83	509	41	79	\$ 3,009,000	7.3	7.2
Dropped	37	2.96	21.2	3.69	12	21	4	-	-	6	2	26	-	3	\$ 46,875	4.0	3.4
Eligible	1,261	3.39	20.8	3.37	466	678	117	6	36	142	137	728	46	166	\$ 3,885,393	1.9	1.9
Pending Renewal	485	3.22	20.3	3.31	197	243	45	2	7	91	54	246	23	62	\$ 1,365,875	2.4	2.3
Overall-Summary	2,645	181.95	21.0	3.41	977	1,449	219	11	56	373	276	1,509	110	310	\$ 8,307,143	3.8	3.7

All Categories

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	5,331	75.98	24.6	3.52	2,045	3,209	77	15	131	398	451	3,998	173	165	\$ 21,483,704	25.1	24.9
Dropped	382	3.39	22.0	3.33	164	195	23	1	6	27	22	299	4	23	\$ 401,837	4.3	4.3
Eligible	15,384	3.82	24.0	3.57	5,678	8,921	785	103	520	948	1,296	11,149	353	1,015	\$ 42,610,005	7.3	7.3
Pending Renewal	5,020	3.53	22.0	3.36	2,083	2,667	270	29	106	539	450	3,437	122	337	\$ 11,357,008	5.3	5.3
Overall-Summary	26,117	18.30	23.7	3.52	9,970	14,992	1,155	148	763	1,912	2,219	18,883	652	1,540	\$ 75,852,554	10.5	10.5

**Arkansas Division of Higher Education
Academic Challenge Scholarship Program
Student Statuses - 2024 Cohort
Fiscal 2024**

Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	37	3.53	19.6	-	17	18	2	-	1	2	1	31	-	2	\$ 46,000	0.0	0.0
Dropped	227	3.29	21.1	-	99	110	18	-	3	14	14	178	-	18	\$ 120,000	0.0	0.0
Eligible	5,920	3.83	23.3	-	2,082	3,224	614	57	208	379	477	4,162	12	625	\$ 6,737,402	0.0	0.0
Pending Renewal	2,334	3.44	21.1	-	944	1,176	214	16	40	234	197	1,625	4	218	\$ 2,163,500	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	8,518	3.71	22.7	0.00	3,142	4,528	848	73	252	629	689	5,996	16	863	\$ 9,066,902	0.0	0.0

Non-Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	158	3536.21	20.4	-	36	78	44	-	1	37	8	59	8	45	\$ 522,125	0.0	0.0
Dropped	19	3.17	20.2	-	7	11	1	-	-	1	2	15	-	1	\$ 18,750	0.0	0.0
Eligible	552	3.37	20.5	-	192	248	112	3	9	59	44	286	21	130	\$ 1,489,250	0.0	0.0
Pending Renewal	250	3.13	19.8	-	96	111	43	1	6	39	28	115	12	49	\$ 599,125	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	979	511.45	20.30	0.00	331	448	200	4	16	136	82	475	41	225	\$ 2,629,250	0.0	0.0

All Categories

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	195	2615.72	20.2	-	53	96	46	-	2	39	9	90	8	47	\$ 568,125	0.0	0.0
Dropped	246	3.28	21.0	-	106	121	19	-	3	15	16	193	-	19	\$ 138,750	0.0	0.0
Eligible	6,472	3.80	23.2	-	2,274	3,472	726	60	217	438	521	4,448	33	755	\$ 8,226,652	0.0	0.0
Pending Renewal	2,584	3.41	21.0	-	1,040	1,287	257	17	46	273	225	1,740	16	267	\$ 2,762,625	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	9,497	43.91	22.49	0.00	3,473	4,976	1,048	77	268	765	771	6,471	57	1,088	\$11,696,152	0.0	0.0